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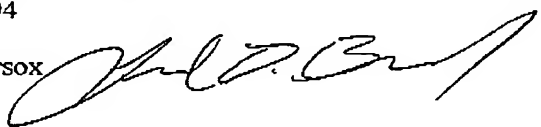
FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION COVER SHEET

DATE: October 6, 2006

TO: Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

EXAMINER: Robert T. Crow, Group Art Unit 1634

RE: U.S. Patent Application No. 10/762,786
For: Diffusion-Aided Loading System for Microfluidic Devices
Our Ref.: 5010-094

FROM: Leonard D. Bowersox 

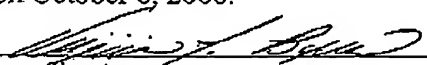
FAC. NO.: (571) 273-8300

NUMBER OF PAGES (INCLUDING THIS COVER SHEET): 16

Papers Filed Herewith: Transmittal Form 1 Page
Information Disclosure Statement 2 Pages
International Preliminary Report on Patentability 11 Pages
Form PTO/SB/08b 1 Page

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Fax No. (571) 273-8300 on October 6, 2006.

Virginia J. Byers
Printed Name:


Signature

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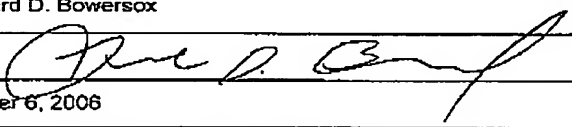
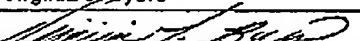
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PTO/SB/21 (08-00)

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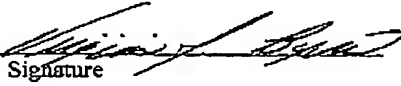
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|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) | | Application Number | 10/762,786 |
| | | Filing Date | January 22, 2004 |
| | | First Named Inventor | Mark F. Oldham et al. |
| | | Group Art Unit | 1634 |
| | | Examiner Name | Robert T. Crow |
| Total Number of Pages in This Submission | 15 | Attorney Docket Number | 5010-094 |
| ENCLOSURES (check all that apply) | | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 | <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group | <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input type="checkbox"/> Acknowledgement Postcard <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): International Preliminary Report on Patentability Form PTO/SB/08b (1 page) | Customer No. 35411 |
| Remarks | | | |
| SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT | | | |
| Firm or Individual name | Leonard D. Bowersox | | |
| Signature |  | | |
| Date | October 6, 2006 | | |
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| Type or printed name | Virginia J. Byers | | |
| Signature |  | Date | October 6, 2006 |

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Virginia J. Byers
Name (Print)


Signature

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| | | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|------|
| Application No. | 10/762,786 | Confirmation No.: | 6117 |
| Applicant | Mark F. Oldham et al. | | |
| Filed | January 22, 2004 | | |
| TC/A.U. | 1634 | | |
| Examiner | Robert T. Crow | | |
| Attorney Docket No. | 5010-094 | | |
| Customer No.: | 35411 | | |

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

October 6, 2006

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the document listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08b (one page).

The document listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08b is an International Preliminary Report on Patentability issued for PCT Application No. PCT/US2004/043770, an application corresponding to the above-captioned application. The International Preliminary Report on Patentability is being submitted prior to the three-month anniversary of the date of mailing of the International Preliminary Report on Patentability. A copy of the International Preliminary Report on Patentability is enclosed.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. See 37 CFR 1.104(a) and 1.106(b) concerning the PTO duty to consider and use any such information. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the document be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

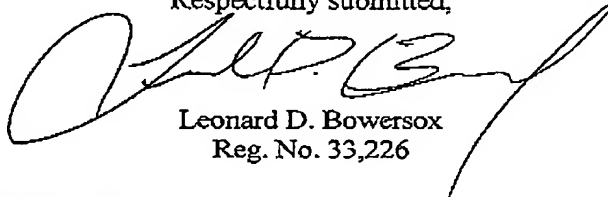
U.S. Patent Application No. 10/762,786
Information Disclosure Statement dated October 6, 2006

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed document is material or constitutes "prior art." If the Examiner applies the cited document as prior art against any claim in this application and applicant determines that the cited document does not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicant reserves the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such document.

Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed document, should the document be applied against the claims of the present application.

It is believed that no fee is required to make this a complete and timely filing. However, if it is determined that a petition or fee is required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee associated with this statement to our Deposit Account No. 50-0925, and please consider this a petition.

Respectfully submitted,



Leonard D. Bowersox
Reg. No. 33,226

KILYK & BOWERSOX, P.L.L.C.
3603-E Chain Bridge Road
Fairfax, VA 22030
Tel.: (703) 385-9688
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Enclosures: Form PTO/SB/08b
Copy of International Preliminary Report on Patentability

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PTO/SB/08b (05-03)

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| Substitute for form 1449/PTO | | Complete if Known | |
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i> | | Application Number | 10/762,788 |
| | | Filing Date | January 22, 2004 |
| | | First Named Inventor | Mark F. Oldham et al. |
| | | Art Unit | 1834 |
| | | Examiner Name | Robert T. Crow |
| | | Attorney Docket Number | 5010-094 |
| Sheet | 1 | | 1 |
| NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS | | | |
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No.* | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published. | T ^a |
| | | International Preliminary Report on Patentability dated July 24, 2006 from PCT/US2004/043770 | |
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| Examiner Signature | Date Considered | | |

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Name: Virginia J. Byers

Signature